

January 2005

From the desk of Scott Yandrasevich, General Manager

Dear Members:

I would like to welcome you to a new season. We have been working hard over the winter to continue the progress that started in 2004. We look forward to yet again many new changes to the facility. Looking back at the 2004 upcoming projects listed in the February 2004 newsletter, I am proud to report all the following have been completed as projected.

Completed in 2004

- ✓ Renovate golf shop.
- ✓ Move starter to first tee.
- ✓ Installation of new club management software.
- ✓ First phase of pool parking lot.
- ✓ Pool deck.
- ✓ Marble dust surface of both pools.
- ✓ Increased number of chairs and umbrellas.
- ✓ New over seeding, fertilizer and pesticide program.
- ✓ Renovate and relocate 1<sup>st</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> tee complexes.
- ✓ Relocate teaching tee.
- ✓ Renovate 3<sup>rd</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> bunker and greens complexes.
- ✓ Start installation of golf car path network.

In addition, continued maintenance and upkeep to the buildings and systems have been ongoing.

Chip Lafferty, our golf course Superintendent, and his staff have taken advantage of the mild winter to date. They have been working on tree work, cleaning up the perimeters of the property and enhancing the beautiful views of Long Island Sound. Sadly we lost some of our older trees to old age and storm damage but we have developed a tree removal & replacement program to ensure healthy native specimens will continue to grow throughout the property and cultivate mature trees for years to come. New projects already completed for the 2005 season include the 1<sup>st</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> bunkers and greens complexes and the 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> tees complexes are underway. As weather and time permits Chip will continue on our master projects.

Pro Mike Rapisarda having completed his first season, has many new ideas in mind. As he & Michelle head to the PGA Golf & Merchandise Show at the end of January, they promise to have the shop fully stocked with all the new and up to date merchandise. We have also been meeting on the upcoming tournament schedule and he has some creative ideas to enhance the events. The first annual end of season dinner and trophy presentation was great and we look forward to more participation this year as well as in all the upcoming events.



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On the Member Services side, our new cashless system was a big success. Yes, we had some problems the first couple of months but, thanks to Sheila Corrado joining us in the beginning of the summer, she has worked out the bugs and it should be smooth sailing from here.

Clare Sheils has moved from the inner office to our new main office / reception area near the entrance to the member lounge. This will allow members to be greeted as they enter the lobby area and allow for more efficient response to your needs.

On the pool front there are many things happening. Warren will be back along with Steven heading up the lifeguards and pool operations and Clare will continue to schedule activities. They all have fresh ideas and many activities planned. Other projects at the pool include a new PA system, drainage and grading the entire pool complex for more usable space, gentle slopes and recreation areas. We hope to update the playground if time permits and plans have been submitted to Westchester County Board of Health for the approval of the installation of a pool heater on the main pool, however with the scope of this project and the approval process I don't anticipate this being completed until the fall.



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Reflecting on the survey done in 2002, we have addressed the items you as members identified as problems. We will continue to strive for excellence and give you the type of club you are looking for. Your comments are important and make a difference. I anticipate another survey this year focusing on some particular areas and look forward to your input. The club has many amenities; the pool and golf course are being maintained to a higher standard and my high expectations of member service standards are equally important. Have pride in you club, take care of it, use it and most of all enjoy it.

As mentioned last year, the Commission and Finance Committee came up with a two-step dues increase program to allow for continued growth and improvements while getting to a true balanced budget. I am happy to say 2005 is the second step. This increase does include monies to cover the Whitby Castle bond that by now we were hoping would be totally covered by Restaurant Associates (the operator of the snack bar and Whitby Castle). With all that being said, as compared to other clubs that charge large initiation fees, big annual dues and assessments to balance budgets, Rye Golf Club has the facilities without the big fees. We are always looking for ways to improve what we offer. The reduction in our golf car rental fee last year received an overwhelming response. We will continue trying to think of creative ideas such as that and welcome your suggestions.

We have many areas to improve upon but with the dedication of the staff and the continued support of the membership we can accomplish it. Please feel free to contact me with your comments and I look forward to seeing you in the upcoming season.

Sincerely,  
Scott